

COLBERT LANDFILL
WASHINGTON
EPA ID# WAD980514541

EPA Region 10
Spokane County
Colbert

5th Congressional District
Other Names: Colbert Dump

Last Update: April, 2002

Site Description

The Colbert Landfill site spans 40 acres and is located two miles north of Colbert, Washington. From 1968 through 1986, the landfill received municipal and commercial wastes. Between 1975 and 1980, a local electronics manufacturing company disposed of spent organic solvents at the landfill. These wastes typically were brought to the landfill in drums and were poured down the sides of open trenches containing soil and ordinary municipal refuse. During the same period, Fairchild Air Force Base disposed of various solvent wastes at the site. In 1980, nearby residents became concerned over the disposal practices. Several private drinking water wells were sampled and found to contain solvents. The landfill was allowed to fill to capacity and then closed in 1986. The site is located in a semi-rural area; approximately 1,500 people live within three miles of the site. Nearby residents operate small crop and livestock farms. The Little Spokane River is located approximately one half mile from the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through state, federal, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

| NPL Listing History | Dates |
|---------------------|----------|
| Proposed Date: | 12/30/82 |
| Removed Date: | |
| Withdrawal Date: | |
| Final Date: | 09/08/83 |
| Deleted Date: | |

Threats and Contaminants

Media Affected: [Groundwater](#), [Soil & Sludges](#)

The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including methylene chloride and trichloroethane (TCA). Methylene chloride contamination was also found in the soil.

Accidental ingestion of contaminated groundwater or direct contact with contaminated soil may pose a health threat. The landfill has been capped to reduce the threat of dermal contact with contaminated soil.

Cleanup Progress

The site is being addressed in two stages: early actions and a long-term action focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Early Actions: In 1984, Spokane County and Key Tronic began supplying bottled water to residents affected by contaminated groundwater. In 1985, the county extended the public water supply main to 26 affected residences.

Long-Term Actions: In 1987, EPA selected a remedy to clean up the landfill. These included installing and operating groundwater interception wells to prevent the contaminants from spreading; installing and operating groundwater extraction wells in the area where the plumes originate to remove source material; reducing the toxicity, mobility, and volume of contaminants by treating all extracted groundwater from both the interception and extraction wells; capping the landfill; and providing an alternate water supply system to any residents deprived of their domestic supply due to the contamination or to the construction of interception or extraction wells. Under a 1989 Consent Decree with EPA, Spokane County and Key Tronic performed the remedy. The groundwater system was completed in the Spring of 1994. The extraction and treatment system has been fully operational since May 1995. The landfill cap was completed in April 1997. Groundwater monitoring is ongoing. Based on the groundwater monitoring data, part of the southern extraction system has been turned off. The data from this system indicated progress towards cleanup goals.

Regional Contacts

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|-------------------------|--------------|
| SITE MANAGER(S): | Not Assigned |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS: | |
| PHONE NUMBER: | |

| | |
|---|------|
| COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR: | |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS | |
| PHONE NUMBER: | 206- |

Information pertaining to this site is housed at the following location(s):

Spokane County Library (Administrative Records)
North Spokane Branch Library
44 East Hawthorne Road
Spokane, WA 99218

Spokane Public Library (Administrative Records)
906 West Main Avenue
Spokane, WA 99201-0976

EPA Region 10 Superfund Records Center (Administrative Records)

1200 Sixth Avenue, ECL-076
Seattle, WA 98101
